

DMIT_Terms_of_Reference

The NOAA Data Management Integration Team will provide expertise and advice on the near-term (5 year) actions needed to write and implement a plan for integrating data management within NOAA. The team should include representation from all of the NOAA Line Offices and Goals to ensure that all NOAA interests and requirements are represented. The team should include 8-12 members with expertise in a broad range of NOAA-relevant classes of data and concerns (e.g. satellite observations, in-situ observations, models, real-time and delayed mode).

Specifically, the team will:

- Develop a vision for a NOAA Integrated Data Management System of Systems.
- Prepare the draft Plan for NOAA Integrated Data Management System of Systems. The plan should include at least the following:
 - ◆ The approach taken (the architectural vision)
 - ◆ What is needed to realize the vision (standards, components, policies, etc.)
 - ◆ Roadmap to the goals over the next 5 years
 - ◆ High priorities for action over the next 2 years
 - ◆ Related activities, standards and specifications
- Oversee creation and maintenance of an inventory of information pertaining to NOAA data management integration.
 - ◆ Determine the approach to be taken, the type of information to be collected, and how the results are to be organized. Suggestions for the approach include:
 - ◇ surveying by data management system, or
 - ◇ surveying by types of variables, or
 - ◇ surveying by structural data types (this refers to the classification of data based upon the data management technologies and standards needed to store, retrieve and transport similar data. Examples include collections of time series, collections of vertical profiles, multi-dimensional grids, swaths, etc.)
 - ◆ Determine the scope of the survey.
 - ◆ Contribute to development of the survey questionnaire
- Develop and implement a strategy to bring NOAA data managers together as communities. The goals of these communities are to 1) foster communication between NOAA data managers who share data management needs and for whom similar data management solutions apply; 2) to help populate the data management inventory; and 3) to provide advice and review of DMC draft plans.
- Develop and foster adoption of a ?standards process? for NOAA data management. The process will provide formal designation as ?NOAA standard? for relevant, high-quality standards and protocols that have demonstrated success at promoting interoperability and have a defined role in the NOAA data management architecture. The process will include review and input from other relevant Federal agencies and communities. The process will provide:
 - ◆ Formal designation of appropriate industry standards as ?NOAA standards? (e.g. XML, OGC-developed protocols)
 - ◆ Formal review, classification and designation of appropriate community-developed standards as ?NOAA standards? (e.g. netCDF, CF, ?)
 - ◆ Developing web sites and policies to promote the development and adoption of broadly-reviewed community standards (analogous to Source Forge, we might envision a ?Standards Forge?).
- Contribute to adoption of NOAA data management standards through promoting pilot projects, outreach (training in the use of ?NOAA standards?) and, as appropriate, certification procedures with respect to the use of NOAA standards.
- Provide advice and expertise to the DMC on obstacles to NOAA data integration and propose approaches to take toward solutions

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- Nominate pilot projects that can serve as a model to NOAA or that could be used to clarify requirements for integration

It is anticipated that the team will, for the most part, conduct business through video and/or teleconferences, although one or two face to face meetings might be necessary.